

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

IO-13 ACDA-07 SAM-01 /079 W
----- 060447

R 101343Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9585
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 6829

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, JO, SA

SUBJECT: PRINCE SULTAN'S REMARKS ON JORDAN'S WEST BANK ROLE

REF: AMMAN 6805 (NOTAL)

1. REFTEL REPORTED KING HUSSEIN'S AND SAUDI ARABIA PRINCE SULTAN'S STATEMENTS AT CEREMONIES MARKING DEPARTURE OF SAUDI BRIGADE STATIONED IN KERAK. AS REPORTED REFTEL, PRESS QUOTED PRINCE SULTAN AS SAYING PEACE IN AREA REQUIRES RETURN OF JERUSALEM TO ARAB SOVEREIGNTY. EMBASSY SUBSEQUENTLY HAS LEARNED THAT JORDAN RADIO REPORTED PRINCE SULTAN SAYING SOMETHING DIFFERENT ON SUBJECT -- I.E. QUOTE WE CANNOT LIVE IN PEACE OF MIND OF COMFORT UNLESS JERUSALEM IS RETURNED UNDER YOUR (KING HUSSEIN'S) WISE LEADERSHIP, WITH YOU ITS GUARD AND SERVANT AFTER GOD. UNQUOTE. (FBISJN071335Y)

2. WE UNDERSTAND FROM SOURCE WHO IS SENIOR AND LONG-TIME EMPLOYEE OF RADIO STATION THAT QUOTE IS ACCURATE TRANSCRIPTION OF TAPE OF PRINCE SULTAN'S REMARKS.
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SOURCE ALSO REPORTS THAT MINISTRY OF INFORMATION WAS

FURIOUS THAT QUOTE WAS CARRIED BY RADIO STATION WITHOUT CHECKING WITH MINISTRY AND THAT DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF RADIO STATION IS BEING RELIEVED OF HIS OFFICE LARGELY FOR THAT REASON. MINISTRY OF INFORMATION SAID SUBSEQUENTLY TO HAVE DIRECTED MEDIA TO CHANGE LPRIMWE SULTAN'S REMARKS TO READ AS REPORTED REFTEL.

3. EMBASSY JIDDA IN BETTER POSITION TO COMMENT AUTHORITATIVELY ON WHETHER PRINCE SULTAN'S REMARKS AS CARRIED ON AMMAN RADIO REFLECT ANY SHIFT IN SAUDI POSITION RE JORDAN'S ROLE ON WEST BANK OR WHETHER PRINCE SULTAN PERSONALLY JUST GOT CARRIED AWAY. (WHICH WE BELIEVE WAS PROBABLY THE CASE). IN ANY EVENT, GOJ'S DECISION NOT TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DISSEMINATION OF ANY SUCH VIEW IS CONSISTENT WITH KING HUSSEIN'S POLICY OF AVOIDING IMAGE OF PUSHING FOR RENEWED JORDAN-WEST BANK RELATIONSHIP WHICH, HE BELIEVES, IN TIME WILL COME.
PICKERING

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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